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twister is  
coming to  
town. It's not  
if, but when.**



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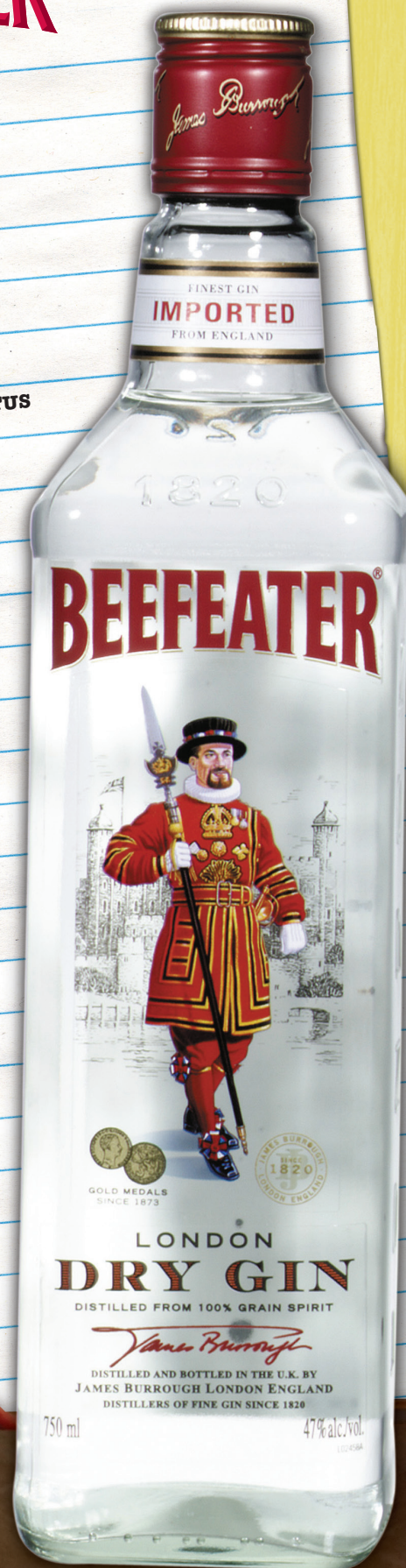
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By Cory Zurowski

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## THE SHORTLIST



LUCY HAWTHORNE

## THE STAT SHEET

The soaring cost of health care, explained in four easy steps:

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The price of an EpiPen two-pack,  
used to treat emergency allergy  
reactions, when its manufacturer  
was bought by Mylan in 2007

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Mylan CEO Heather Bresch's pay last  
year, a 671 percent increase from 2007

“As an ex-Menards employee, I can tell you  
that Menards operates under a cheat  
until you get caught policy.”

Reader Bill Busse, responding to “Trucker says Menards saves big money for Menards by skirting employment laws,” at [citypages.com](http://citypages.com).

## CONSPIRACIES

**EARLIER THIS MONTH**, the U.S. Department of Agriculture hosted the 15th annual LGBT Rural Summit in Iowa. The get-together allows the feds to talk about policies and programs designed to aid the heartland.

The event led to an insta-bloom of outrage from the right-wing media. Radio host and professional victim Rush Limbaugh called it a plot to infiltrate red states with a massive army of lesbians.

In Minnesota, farm communities from Blue Earth to Redwood Falls are already reporting a dramatic impact, pointing to a sizable improvement in the caliber of women's softball.

## POPULAR STORIES

AT CITYPAGES.COM

**REPUBLICAN PARTY** forgot to put Donald Trump on Minnesota ballot, scrambling to fix it

New foods of the 2016 **MINNESOTA STATE FAIR**: The ultimate guide

How to pronounce **LACROIX**  
(if you're not an ass)

**GAME SPORTS BAR**, Uptown's new gay bar, is now open

Dear obviously **MALE CYCLIST**  
who defaced my sweet sign



# WHAT WOULDN'T JESUS DO

St. Cloud tries to boot homeless man from church property

St. John's Episcopal Church, St. Cloud's oldest house of worship, installed a tiny house on its property last spring with the hope of putting a roof over a homeless man's head.

It's a 132-square-foot shelter on wheels with electricity, water, and heat. Similar tiny houses have become an increasingly popular way to diminish homelessness in cities like Madison, Duluth, and Austin, Texas.

The man, whom the church refers to as John Doe, has been living in the house for nearly three months. He's about 40 or 50 years old, contributes by doing janitorial work, and sits quietly in the back during Sunday sermons.

He was chosen by parishioners who volunteer with the St. Cloud Coalition of Homeless Men, who determined that he would be the best fit.

He's a "gentle soul, very delightful guy" with some physical deformities, says church attorney Robert Feigh. "Homeless people

are messy, messy in the sense that a number of them have mental health problems, past addiction problems, and he probably has the least of that. He's very, very quiet, but he's a very nice fellow."

St. Cloud doesn't have any zoning rules concerning tiny houses, but city inspectors have been employing various tactics to separate St. John's from its homeless resident, Feigh says.

The problem began when the church applied for a conditional use permit in July 2015, which St. Cloud promptly denied. The church argued that the city lacked the authority to infringe on its right to exercise its religion. Helping the poor was part of that, St. John's insisted.

But the city wouldn't leave St. John's alone. Inspectors served a notice of violation, which came with threats of fines. They ordered the church to first bury electrical cable running to the house, and then requested it be dug up, inspected, and

reburied.

"The threat is somehow to remove electricity, somehow evict him....," Feigh says. "They just wouldn't go away."

So St. John's filed suit in federal court, citing the Bill of Rights and the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000.

Feigh says communication with the city has dwindled down to legal filings between him and the city attorney, who has declined to comment.

"I don't wanna say they have tunnel vision, but they see it as a vague potential problem if there were tiny houses all over the city, that that wouldn't be good, and it probably wouldn't be," he says. "Or there should be a legislative solution where the



ST. CLOUD COALITION FOR HOMELESS MEN

A homeless man uses this to keep from freezing to death in the street. But St. Cloud wants to keep a church from following the teachings of their famous leader, a guy named Jesus.

city council passes something to rectify this. But they haven't done that....

"That's the big distinction here. The government cannot interfere with churches rendering to the poor on their own property. That's what it amounts to." -SUSAN DU

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# Minimized

Charles Thornton worries for the future of minimum wage. He lives in its present.

The rich man suffers from tennis elbow. The middle-class office worker complains of carpal tunnel. After seven years running the grill at Wendy's, and one doctor visit, Charles Thornton is ready to self-diagnose.

"I've got 'hamburger elbow,'" he says, rubbing the back of his left arm. He points at a journalist's notebook. "Write it down."

Thornton works the 5 p.m.-1:30 a.m. shift four nights a week at a north Minneapolis Wendy's. Placing his hands out in front of him like a mime, Thornton imagines a wide, sizzling griddle, and estimates he'll make five or six hundred burgers during a "rush hour."

One starts the moment he clocks in, 5 o'clock. Another hits at 8. Then, around 11, "the whole city" arrives, a hungry, booze-breathed line forming out into the parking lot.

Thornton used to chow down on Wendy's when he lived in Chicago, and the burger he liked sold for a buck.

"Now that same burger is \$2.39," he says, shaking his head, chuckling.

But Thornton's salary hasn't increased at the same rate. After hiring him at \$7.50 an hour in 2009, Wendy's waited a couple years before kicking in another 50 cents. A year later his rate ticked up to \$8.15. His last couple raises — to \$9 an hour in 2015, and \$9.50 at the start of last month — have been mandatory under the state's minimum wage law.

It's still too low for Thornton, who's backing the election referendum for a \$15 minimum in the city of Minneapolis. The city council balked at the idea, and city

attorney Susan Segal blocked it from the ballot. Last week, a county judge ruled in favor of labor organizers, saying the wage hike question should be on the ballot in November. The city has appealed, taking the referendum fight to the Minnesota Supreme Court.

That's all playing out at some remove from Thornton's modest living room in

## Thornton's margin is as thin as the square patties he turns by the hundred.

north Minneapolis. He says he couldn't afford his small apartment were it not for his fiancée, Mary, who works as a personal care attendant.

Thornton, 60, grew up on the south side of Chicago, son of an electrician, a union man. Mom stayed home raising eight kids. Some nights she skipped meals.

He's been working all his life, starting with a paper route — "7.50 a week," good for "a lot of candy" — as a boy. After high school, he worked at a hospital, earning \$3.65 an hour in food service. After a dozen years, the hospital closed in 1984. Thornton bounced around, working as a mailman, and later for the city parks department. He got divorced. Ran into credit card debt. Declared bankruptcy.

Around 2009, Thornton determined the south side of Chicago had "a lot of people and no jobs," so he moved to Minneapolis, staying with a brother who lived here. Charles got a job at Wendy's, and has been grilling ever since, watching supervisors count stacks of cash as he takes out the garbage at the end of each shift.

"I understand that it's a business," Thornton says.

He's wrong. Wendy's isn't just a business. It's a globally advertised corporate stock. Each quarter, Wendy's CEO Todd Penegor holds a conference call to take questions from investment hawks at places like Goldman Sachs. Back in May, Penegor explained a temporary dip in demand, saying of Wendy's consumers, "There has been little or no wage growth."

No shit, Todd. Charles could've told you that.

That's not true for everyone: Emil Brolick, the outgoing Wendy's CEO whose place Penegor took this spring, made a total of \$8.3 million in 2015, up 13 percent from the year before. The vast majority of Brolick's haul came through stock options and bonuses awarded by a "compensation committee," which praised Brolick for Wendy's 15 percent profit margin.

What's Thornton's operating margin? Every couple weeks, he stands in line to collect a \$525 check. After rent, groceries, car and renter's insurance, electric, child support for his three kids, minutes on his cell phone, copayments on blood pressure medication, the odd gift for his grandkids... what's left?

Charles crooks his thumb to his fingers,



Mike Mullen

forming a circle; lifts it up, stares out through it. Zero. Thornton's margin is as thin as the square patties he turns by the hundred.

If you vote in Minneapolis, consider yourself a member of his compensation committee.


A couple weeks ago, Thornton got a letter from Wendy's reminding him he was approaching the company's mandatory retirement age of 65.

That's the same year, 2020, the \$15 minimum would take effect if the ballot measure passes. With a personal retirement nest egg of \$1,100, he figures he'll punch the clock at least that long.

Charles hopes to retire with "a little bit of health" left, maybe enjoy a few restful years. He hasn't had a vacation since moving to Minneapolis.

And he knows his role as a spokesman for workers could jeopardize his job at Wendy's. It's worth it.

Complain about low wages, Thornton says, and people will tell you "something's better than nothing." It is, but just barely.

"I tell my kids, 'You've gotta have more than just a little something,'" Thornton says. "If you settle for a little something, then a little something's all you'll have." 

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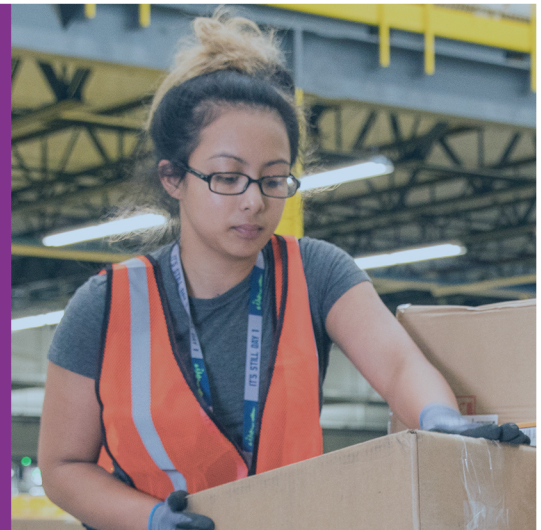
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**A catastrophic  
twister is  
coming to  
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not if,  
but  
when.**

**B  
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By Cory Zurowski

**K**en Allen and his three sons labored to fix a dock battered by the ice of winter past when wife Barb appeared on the porch.

Get in here now! she barked.

The timbre of her voice said she was serious. By the time they scurried to the basement of their Excelsior home, a breeze had turned full squall. The sky spit quarter-sized hail. Ninety seconds later, God unleashed hell.

Some of the vast damage caused by the 1965 tornado. The house in the foreground was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Paulsen. The Mound, Minnesota, couple was killed when winds plucked them from the house.



It felt like an adventure to 15-year-old son Harry. A beast of a tornado had invaded from Chanhassen to the south, and was now auguring a path four football fields wide, directly above their heads.

Harry remembers feeling small. He heard 200 mph winds indiscriminately thrashing boats, bricks, and trees, then hurling them at will. It left as quickly as it arrived.

The storm would be the first of eight tornadoes to ransack the Twin Cities area on May 6, 1965. Thirteen people perished. Nearly 1,000 were hurt. The damage in 2016 dollars would be in the billions.

When the Allens emerged, stillness and broken glass received them at the top of the stairs. Pines that had towered over houses were now snapped at the base. Gone was the house next door. Impaled atop a nearby roof was the 16-foot sailboat belonging to older brother Bill.

The twisters that night “terrorized this area,” says state climatologist Kenny Blumenfeld.

“This will happen again.”

Call it bad timing. The law of averages. The fact that Mother Nature always wins.

According to Blumenfeld and others who study Minnesota’s violent weather, the writing on the wall says the Twin Cities is about to get whacked by a wicked tornado. And it’s going to happen sooner rather than later.

### The soothsayers

As a tyke in Minneapolis, Blumenfeld caught the tornado bug in elementary school. His show-and-tells were “badly informed” doom-and-gloom stories birthed from an excitable boy’s imagination.

He wishes it were still the case.

Blumenfeld and fellow climatologist Pete Boulay are Minnesota’s severe weather sentinels. Squired away in an office on the University of Minnesota’s St. Paul campus, they study storms past to see the thunderclouds of the future.

“We look at all the statistics. We look at the climate here and we go, ‘Wow! There’s going to be a major tornado, or tornado outbreak, some type of weather disaster that really knocks this region out,’” says Blumenfeld.

History and science say so.

Minnesota camps in the tornado wheelhouse, perched along the northern edge of twisters’ preferred stomping grounds. The area’s relationship with the cone-shaped destroyers predates statehood. Settlers in 1820 documented a funnel near the future site of Fort Snelling.

But it’s a relatively young science. Reliable stats date only to 1950. History says Minnesota gets 32 tornadoes annually, the lion’s share in the southern and central parts of the state.

When they have targeted the metro area, they’ve brought the hammer. The Lake Harriet-Har Mar tornado in 1981 sliced



SASHA LANDSKOV

a diagonal path from Edina to Roseville, its girth as much as two and a half blocks wide, producing winds equivalent to Hurricane Katrina’s.

The twister wrecked almost 100 homes, required the summoning of National Guard troops to prevent looting, and claimed one life.

A smaller tornado hit Rogers in 2006,

to cluster, spawning three or more tornadoes, say, in a single afternoon.

Outbreaks in recent years have come close to the metro. Fourteen tornadoes touched down to the south in 1998, including one near St. Peter that was more than a mile wide.

A surge in 2010 had 48 storms to the north and south of the Twin Cities, includ-

**“Every decade or so you get a big multiple-event tornado outbreak in Minnesota.”**

destroying 50 houses and killing a 10-year-old girl.

Minneapolis’ 2011 tornado was smaller still, yet winds topped out around 100 mph. One man died. Fifty people were injured. Thousands of homes and buildings on the North Side were damaged.

We’ve been lucky, say Blumenfeld and Boulay. Big twisters have spared the Cities for a half-century. Which means we’re due. “It’s not on a timer,” Blumenfeld says, “but every decade or so you get a big multiple-event tornado outbreak in Minnesota.”

This is what the climatologists worry about. Though consensus is that climate change is having a negligible effect on the volume and severity, the pair believe a warming planet might be causing storms

ing four powerful enough to erase neighborhoods.

“All it would take is one day of bad luck to show us real quick why a tornado outbreak is up there as the most severe disaster event we would face,” says Hennepin County Emergency Management Director Eric Waage.

Now is the calm before the storm. And Mother Nature and Father Time are quietly colluding.

### Disaster averted

The terror of 1965 has been dubbed “The Longest Night.” Over a three-hour period, the storms descended like wave after wave of an invading army. Considering there were so many big tornadoes packing such

**Father Time and Mother Nature are colluding in disaster, according to Dr. Kenny Blumenfeld.**

wrecking power that night, the human toll could have easily been in the hundreds rather than 13.

Survivors and students of the outbreak assign credit for lives saved to WCCO radio and an obedient population.

Host Howard Viken was wrapping up his show early that evening when he was interrupted by weather alerts. The program would fast morph into a forebear of Twitter. As funnels formed, calls from eyewitnesses were put on the air. They communicated the danger in real time.

“Nobody had done that before,” says the National Weather Service’s Todd Krause. “It was a brilliant decision. By doing that they were able to pass along that the threat of tornadoes was real, it was right now, and it was immediate. What WCCO radio did that evening saved many, many lives.”

Like June Peterson’s.

Peterson, her husband, and their two kids were tuned in to the broadcast. When they heard a caller from nearby New Brighton say a massive twister was four miles away from their Mounds View home, barreling toward their neighborhood, the family fled to the basement. Just in time.

The Petersons were alive yet bloodied, looking up at the nighttime sky within minutes. The storm ripped away everything, the floor joists included.

“There was so much noise, and concrete



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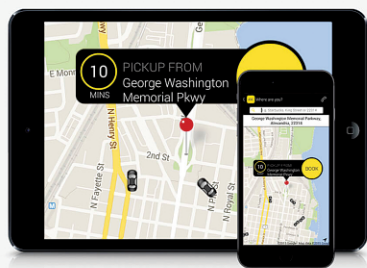


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blocks were flying everywhere,” June says. “When it was over, it took us some time to realize the entire house was gone because it was so dark out.”

If people weren’t near a radio, they likely heeded the warning sirens. The outbreak marked the first time the Twin Cities’ public alert system was ever used.

“Based on the number of people killed and hurt, the system in 1965 worked,” says Waage. “It worked because it was the Cold War and everybody was well-trained. They knew they needed to take shelter when they heard the sirens, and that’s exactly what they did.”

Many worry that modern-day Minnesota isn’t prepared to respond so dutifully.

### Slouching toward tedium

More people. A diversifying population. A larger metro. Together, they expose the Twin Cities as a soft target like never before.

In 1965, the population of the metro was two million tops.

“We think back to that night in 1965 and those tornadoes, and the one that went by Waconia and up toward Mound,” says Krause, “and much of the area south of there was all farmland. Now, you’ve got subdivisions.”

The region today is home to roughly 3.5 million residents.

“It’s really just a pure numbers game,”



SASHA LANDSKOV

says St. Paul Emergency Management Director Rick Larkin. “The exposure, if you want to use that term, is just so much greater, so the potential is there for mass casualties.”

That makes for a 3,000-square-mile bull’s-eye where in excess of 100 languages are spoken.

More than 90 percent of Minnesotans were white and spoke English in 1965. Today, languages like Spanish, Hmong, and Cushite are spoken in some 500,000

households.

“So when we’re talking about public safety warnings, the language is an area of concern, but it’s more than just language,” says Lillian McDonald, director of ECHO, an outreach group working on multilingual communication.

There’s no word for tornado in Somali. Hmong has “storm-like,” but no direct translation. Some of the state’s newer residents, who’ve heard sirens being tested, have misinterpreted them as harbingers

The Twin Cities’ larger geographic target, residents speaking dozens of languages, and fractured communication forms are among the area’s weather liabilities, say Blumenfeld, right, and Boulay.

of a military attack.

“So basically, if you’re not privileged and you don’t speak English,” Blumenfeld says, “getting the critical information that could save your life and even knowing that it exists is harder.”

McDonald saw firsthand how Hurricane Katrina blindsided New Orleans’ sizable Vietnamese community.

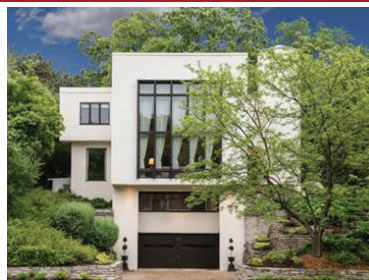
“They didn’t know what was coming or how to prepare for it,” she says, “because there was no mechanism in place to reach them.”

How to warn people who struggle with English is a question without good answers. Then there’s the stubborn impediment of insouciance: We slack on tornadoes because we can.

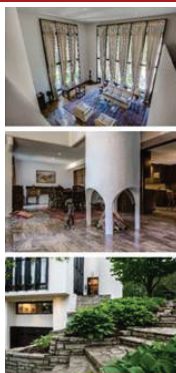
“The return time for tornadoes in Minnesota, and especially in the Twin Cities, unfortunately, is long enough there’s geographical forgetting,” says Waage.

In other words, geography affords us a short-term memory, which enables a laziness toward peril.

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That isn't the case in places like Oklahoma.

"If you lived [there] and get one of these huge tornadoes every five years or so, you're extremely tuned in and have a lot of advance measures in place," Waage says. "They shut down schools, have shelters specifically built for tornadoes. If there's enough advance warning people will leave their city and go somewhere else."

Oklahomans did all those things in 2013 as a twister descended upon Moore, a city of 50,000 people. A witness called it "a giant wall of destruction."

It was a mile and a half wide and released energy estimated to be eight times greater than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

It hit during the afternoon rush hour, ensnaring commuters on choked roadways, reducing nearly 1,200 homes to slabs. One hundred horses were found tangled in power lines and tossed atop buildings.

Two dozen people died, including seven children. Hundreds more were hurt. Damage totaled \$2 billion.

And it all happened in 47 minutes.

"If there's one area that's our soft underbelly, it's a complacency of the public," says Waage. "In our area, we try, the media outlets try, and the forecasters and TV weather people are trying to tell people this is out there. But I worry there's a significant chunk of people who aren't listening because they haven't had to."

Today's communication labyrinth compounds the complacency, according to St. Paul's Larkin. A local person can be globally in-the-know, listening to the BBC's coverage of a terrorist attack in Turkey while unaware of a tornado sighting only miles away.

In 1965, 'CCO was a news source for up to 70 percent of Minnesotans. Today, that figure is just 5 percent. The two highest-rated stations, KOOL 108 and KS95, together don't have a third of the listeners 'CCO

WCCO radio saved many families, like these survivors near Lake Minnetonka, who huddled in basements as twisters football fields wide barreled over them.

had when twisters hit five decades ago.

The "many thousands" of outlets competing for attention screams red flag to Waage: "If you're not careful in your selection to what you're tuned into, a person can be oblivious and could quickly find themselves in some real danger."

It all adds up to a very plausible worst-case scenario.

Say it's the post-work rush hour, which happens to coincide with prime tornado time. Moms, kids, college students on break are preoccupied, doing their summertime thing. Sirens go off. Some heed, many don't. Thousands of commuters listen to alerts on the radio, but are trapped on highways with nowhere to go. In some homes throughout the region, the warnings flashing in English are meaningless because viewers don't understand the language.

"We try to tell people, 'Pay attention!'" says Blumenfeld. "This is important. It happened before and will again. It matters to the safety of your family, your neighborhood, your school.' But when you try to convey that to people, it's like trying to describe to them the dream you had the other night."

Don Rossbach has been trying for 51 years. The 88-year-old lives in a different house, but on the same Lois Drive that was steamrolled by 200 mph winds and machine-gunned by debris.

An Army vet who'd been stationed in Japan at the end of World War II, Rossbach wore a can-do virility. When he arrived home from work in Mounds View in May '65, he wasn't too keen when his late wife, Dolores, ordered him down to the base-



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ment.

The Rossbachs and their children hunkered down for hours, listening to 'CCO on a transistor. Reports came from Carver County and Deephaven. An hour later someone spotted the night's fifth twister west of Mounds View and headed toward Blaine. Fifty minutes after that an eyewitness warned of yet another big storm. It had touched down in Golden Valley and was making a beeline for Lois Drive.

Rossbach looked out the basement window. Lightning flashed. The air wasn't breathing. He was mortified to see a neighbor painting the kitchen. Another man was outside surveying the western sky. Rossbach turned the radio off. He told his wife and kids to listen.

The winds angered in a moment. Glass exploded. Don and Dolores shielded the children with hunched bodies. Dolores strained to stay in position as the storm's vacuum tried to suck her into the gyre.

"If you've ever heard a nail being pulled out of a board," says Don, "it sounded like a thousand carpenters pulling nails, ripping stuff apart. You didn't even know if the wind was blowing. It was the sound of destruction."

Or annihilation.

### Clouds on the horizon

In May 2011, storms riddled much of the country from Texas to Canada, east to Pennsylvania and South Carolina. Their scope stupefied. Nearly 250 twisters in six days.

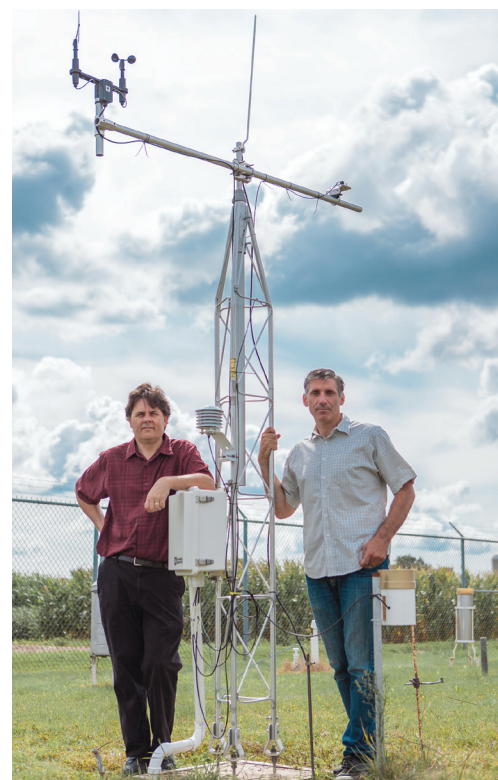
Hours after one hit north Minneapolis and areas northeast, a giant ploughed into Joplin, Missouri, a city of 50,000 people. More than 150 died, 1,200 were injured, with destruction pushing \$3 billion.

"I had thought we'd licked large-scale deaths due to a tornado because of our technology, because of the early warnings," Blumenfeld says. "Then we had Joplin."

Survivors of the mile-wide Joplin storm, who'd ignored weather alerts, complained of warning fatigue. They'd heard the same sirens on countless occasions when little or nothing came. Why should they have thought this time was different?

"This is the horribly difficult part of the job of forecasters," says Larkin. "I can tell you because I'm in the room with these men and women, and they struggle to say, 'When do we put out a warning for this? Or when do we put up a watch that conditions are ripe?'"

"People say, 'Well, they just say that all the time.' With our Facebook, fast food mentality, I think folks expect with all this technology and this super duper radar



SASHA LANDSKOV

The fear of an impending tornado disaster in the Twin Cities is real for state climatologists Boulay, left, and Blumenfeld.

[that we can forecast] there'll be severe weather at this time and this place, and I can tell you we're just not there."

The National Weather Service in Chanhassen now tests its sirens once a month. It was weekly before Joplin. Other jurisdictions have decided not to sound the alarm for severe thunderstorms or winds less than 70 mph.

When danger is imminent, the Weather Service presses "the ENTER button and the warnings go out to the whole world through the internet and out into every direction," Krause says.

Emergency management personnel saturate the area using every means possible, from TV to Twitter, cell phones to battle-tested outlets like 'CCO.

Some inroads have been made within non-English speaking populations.

St. Paul has run radio spots about emergency preparedness on the Hmong station. ECHO and Minnesota Public Television have tested alerts translated into Spanish, Somali, and Hmong on public TV.

"Are we where we need to be?" asks ECHO's McDonald. "No. It's sort of being done now as best as folks can."

This, to Blumenfeld, is not close to being enough.

"I fear we have a big severe weather outbreak that causes huge destruction, and I and people who care about this issue are left with a hopeless feeling, asking, 'What did we do wrong?'"

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# 10 BEST NEW STATE FAIR FOODS

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MARY JO RASMUSSEN, AND  
HANNAH SAYLE

## 10. CRACKER JACK® Caramel Sundae

AT GOERTZE'S DAIRY KONE, \$7

The folks at Goertze's Dairy Kone get bonus points for presentation and personality. The jocular mien of our server put a smile on our faces — as did the Cracker Jack caramel sundae he handed us. The monster concoction features Goertze's famous vanilla soft serve "ice Kreme," topped with caramel sauce, mini M&Ms, and a drizzle of hot fudge all swathed in whipped cream. It's piled into an actual Cracker Jack box, so you find a surprise layer of caramel corn on the bottom. It's big enough to share, which is good, because everyone will want some.

## 9. Gumbo Frites

AT RAGIN CAJUN, \$7

We were thoroughly surprised by this one. At first glance, before the shredded cheese had a chance to melt atop the gravy-laden fries, we thought it would be a sloppy, two-bit rendition of a Canadian classic. But this bayou poutine proved us wrong. It's not exactly gumbo gracing these crispy French fries, but it's a damn tasty gravy with bits of spicy ham that had us reaching in for more. Don't sleep on this curious wonder.

## 8. Reuben Pickle Dog

AT PICKLE DOG, \$7

Roast beef and cream cheese were never part of the Reuben recipe, but the State Fair is all about culinary iconoclasm. Pickle Dog swaddles its famous dill spears in a half inch of cream cheese

and wraps it all in a slice of deli roast beef (which they claim is pastrami). Voila, Reuben Pickle Dog. Despite the liberal interpretation of the New York City classic, there are strands of sauerkraut, and this new addition to the outside-the-bun hot dog cart is a strange and refreshing delight.

## 7. Cajun Peel-N-Eat Shrimp

AT CAFÉ CARIBE, \$10

Grease, batter, and sodium. This is the pedigree of fair foods. But that's where Club Med-themed margarita house Café Caribe changes things up. Their cajun peel-n-eat shrimp are a fresh reprieve from the slog of deep-fried whatever on a stick. Tender and firm tails in split shells are lightly dusted with a zesty off-the-shelf cajun spice. The only real criticism is that you lose a lot of the seasoning when

removing the shell, but overall, this is a welcome addition to the fairgrounds.

## 6. Cheesy French Onion Monkey Bread

AT BLUE MOON DINE-IN THEATER, \$7

If you prefer your soup on a bread bowl, Blue Moon's Cheesy French Onion Monkey Bread is ideal. A globe of stringy swiss sits atop the pullapart bread, and translucent onions with a savory jus are poured over the top. It's a clever reverse engineering of the classic starter, though it's a bit odd to eat soup with your hands. Do it anyway and gobble it quickly before the bread gets too soggy.

## 5. Call It Breakfast

AT DAIRY GOODNESS BAR, MIDWEST DAIRY ASSOCIATION, \$5

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Bang Bang Fresh chicken tenders at Lulu's Public House

LUCY HAWTHORNE

isn't much difference between the two. They're both extremely creamy iced treats topped with doughnut sprinkles and chunks of what taste like A Baker's Wife doughnuts. Would you actually eat this dessert for breakfast? Maybe if you're a hedonist with no sense of self-preservation, but whatever the hour, the Dairy Building should be proud to host this democratically elected sweet treat.

#### 4. Bang Bang Fresh Chicken Tenders

AT LULU'S PUBLIC HOUSE, \$6

Chicken tenders. Is there any more snooze-worthy phrase in the food universe? But here on Dan Patch Avenue at one of those generic-seeming beer vending stalls, we dare say we just ate the chicken tender of our lives. Which is kind of like drinking the bottled water of your life. Subtly exciting, yet exciting! For once not an oxymoron, these tenders are in fact tender, with sophisticated breading and frying and a handmade buffalo sauce (also available with BBQ) riding sidecar that's at once fiery, creamy, and crackling fresh. One of our favorite bites. Wonders do not cease at the Minnesota State Fair.

#### 3. Barbecued Shrimp Taco

AT TEJAS EXPRESS, \$10

The barbecued shrimp tacos at Tejas Express were the most pleasant surprise of the day. It can seem like seafood and the State Fair don't really go together. But the shrimp were big and succulent, and there were lots of them. The chipotle barbecue sauce was definitely a few notches past Minnesota spicy, and the fresh and crisp jicama slaw provided a crunchy and cooling counterpoint. It would have been a nice touch to warm the corn tortillas on the griddle, but that's a quibble.

#### 2. Spicy Pork Bowl

AT THE BLUE BARN, \$9

The ubiquity of the rice bowl being what it is, we're not sure why we should encourage you to get one at the fair, except that this is a damn good bowl. The pork is at once smoky yet lightly sweet, performing an impressive balancing act that many porks cannot. The rice is tinged with herbaceous goodness, and hard-cooked greens and tender black beans provide a solid base. A dollop of also excellently balanced "charred" salsa plus a finishing shower of fried onion makes this one of the most balanced things we've ever had at the fair, though you're not at the fair for balance, we know.

#### 1. Carpe Diem

AT THE RABBIT HOLE, \$6

This ice cream treat has it all: clever name, whimsical presentation, and knockout ingredients. The Carpe Diem from Rabbit Hole is served in a miso waffle cone shaped like a fish with a gaping mouth, the better to hold your sweet treat. A ladle of luxurious strawberry-balsamic sauce goes in first, followed by a generous serving of ultra-rich vanilla ice cream, topped with graham cracker crumbs and a strawberry. The miso gives the cone an unusual depth of flavor; it's an integral part of the dish, not just a receptacle for the ice cream. Seize the day and get one of these cones.

#### HONORABLE MENTION:

**Iron Range Meat & Potatoes**, at Giggles' Campfire Grill, \$8

So maybe you didn't come to the State Fair to get a solid, rib-sticking meal. But let's say you did, eh? The Iron Range Meat and Potatoes would be your first



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## YOERG'S BEER IS BACK



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 MINNESOTA'S FIRST BEER**





Carpe Diem at the Rabbit Hole

LUCY HAWTHORNE

and only stop. This hearty shepherd's pie is actual food in a sea of gimmicky pretenders. Real meatloaf with bits of sweet corn is frosted with real mashed potatoes (with bits of red potato skin!) and dressed with a savory gravy. If you're looking for sustenance — and flavor — look no further.

**Chocolate Agate Crunch**, at *Hamline Church Dining Hall*, \$5 for a single, \$7 for a double

Ice cream fans, and especially Izzy's fanatics, should get over to the Hamline Church Dining Hall for some chocolate agate crunch, a new flavor inspired by the Minnesota state gemstone, the Lake Superior agate. There is a lot going on with this frozen treat. It starts with Izzy's chocolate caramella ice cream, streaked through with a salted caramel swirl, then adds Oreo cookie crumbles and edible chocolate "rocks." And of course, you get an Izzy's scoop on top. May we suggest the mini-donut batter crunch?

**La La Palooza Sundae**, at *Bridgeman's Ice Cream*, \$25

For the their 80th birthday, Bridgeman's brought their behemoth La La Palooza sundae to the State Fair. It's a hulking, eight-scoop monstrosity that defies any and all rationale. Pineapple chunks sit atop butter brittle ice cream. Strawberry topping covers pecans and mounds of chocolate. Everything melts into a Neapolitan nightmare that will draw gasps from fairgoers and Bridgeman's employees alike. It's such a spectacle that each buy comes with an "I ate a La La

Palooza" button that's the size of a softball. Pure, beautiful spectacle.

### BIGGEST CLUNKERS:

**Deep Fried Nachos Supreme**, at *Texas Steak Out*, \$9

The entire dish looks like something that has already been eaten. Crushed nacho tortilla chips feel already chewed, then balled up around cheese, fried into a crust, and served with lunchroom-quality ground beef, salsa, sour cream, and a squirt of liquid guacamole. Nothing supreme about it.

**SPAM® Curds**, at *SPAM®*, \$7

This thing is as much cheese curd as Spam is meat. Which is to say, not very. Breaded and deep-fried spam cubes hide an insignificant trickle of processed cheese sauce within. The top note is salt, the bottom note is salt, the middle note is salt. If you want any of these, just inspect nearby trash receptacles. Intact containers are sure to be found.

**Candied Bacon Donut Sliders**, *Minnesota Wine Country*, \$9

If it sounds too good to be true, that's because it is. While the candied maple bacon is a nice blend of sweet and smoky, the delicate doughnut buns are desperately dry. Too much pizzazz, not enough execution.

*The Minnesota State Fair runs from August 25-September 4. Visit [www.mnstatefair.org](http://www.mnstatefair.org) for more info.*



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2016 Minnesota  
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## THE MAINROOM

BEST CONCERT VENUE, BEST CONCERT, BEST CONCERT (TOURING), BEST CLUB DJ - City Pages 2016

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31



**CITY PAGES PRESENTS**  
**GUIDED BY VOICES**  
BRONCHO  
\$25/\$30/7:30PM/18+

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4



**MLH CARAVAN: A DIASPORA CALLING! CONCERT SERIES**  
**MS. LAURYN HILL**  
\$77/7PM/18+

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10



**ERIC ANDRE LIVE!**  
\$20/7:30PM/18+

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14



**TROYBOI**  
THE MANTRA TOUR  
GENTS & JAWS  
\$17/\$20/7:30PM/18+

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16



**ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN**  
ESTER DRANG  
\$30/7:30PM/18+

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17



**89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS**  
**THE SPECIALS**  
THE FAR EAST  
\$30/8PM/18+

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18



**BELLY**  
DJ SETS BY JAKE RUDH  
(TRANSMISSION)  
\$25/7PM/18+

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19



**THE HEAVY**  
THE RAMONA FLOWERS  
\$18/\$20/7PM/18+

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21



**PEACHES**  
\$16/7:30PM/18+

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23



**THRICE**  
LA DISPUTE  
NOTHING NOWHERE.  
\$21/\$25 DAY OF SHOW  
7PM/18+

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24



**89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS**  
**DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS**  
LYDIA LOVELESS  
\$25/8PM/18+

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25



**DANNY BROWN**  
THE EXHIBITION 2016 TOUR  
MAXO KREAM  
ZELOOPERZ  
\$25.50/\$28/7:30PM/18+

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27



**HOME OF THE STRANGE TOUR**  
**YOUNG THE GIANT**  
RA RA RIOT  
\$27/\$30/7PM/18+

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28



**89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS**  
**LOCAL NATIVES**  
CHARLOTTE DAY WILSON  
\$30/7PM/18+

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29



**THE FAINT**  
GANG OF FOUR  
PICTUREPLANE  
DJ JAKE RUDH  
\$20/7PM/18+

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30



**FOREVER YOUNG**  
HOMECOMING  
90S & 00S DANCE MUSIC  
YOU FORGOT YOU LOVED  
\$7/\$11/9PM/18+

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1



**89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS**  
**BEN FOLDS**  
AND A PIANO  
\$35 GA SOLD OUT/  
\$120.50 VIP/7:30PM/18+

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5



**89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS**  
**SHOVELS & ROPE**  
MATTHEW LOGAN VASQUEZ  
(OF DELTA SPIRIT)  
\$22/\$25/7PM/18+

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6



**MARIAN HILL**  
ACT ONE TOUR  
VÉRITÉ  
SHAED  
\$20/7PM/18+

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7



**89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS**  
**DINOSAUR JR.**  
STEVE GUNN & THE OUTLINERS  
\$25/\$28/8PM/18+

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8



**89.3 THE CURRENT, SECRET STASH RECORDS, BAUHAUS BREW LABS, AND PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE PRESENT**  
**SONNY KNIGHT AND THE LAKERS**  
ALBUM RELEASE PARTY  
NOOKY JONES  
BIG WAVE DAVE  
THE RIPPLES  
\$15/\$17/7PM/18+

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9



**BOYCE AVENUE**  
BE SOMEBODY WORLD TOUR  
LEROY SANCHEZ  
NICK HOWARD  
\$25/\$26.50/5PM/ALL AGES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10



**OPETH**  
SORCERESS WORLD TOUR  
THE SWORD  
\$35/7PM/18+

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11



**JACK GARRATT**  
BRASSTACKS  
\$22.50/7PM/18+

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12



**89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS**  
**KISHI BASHI**  
TWIN  
\$17/\$20/\$75 VIP/7PM/18+

FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON PERFORMERS AND COMPLETE SHOW LISTINGS VISIT [FIRST-AVENUE.COM](http://FIRST-AVENUE.COM)  
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VISIT [FIRST-AVENUE.COM/OUTLETS](http://FIRST-AVENUE.COM/OUTLETS) FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF LOCAL TICKET OUTLETS.

## ALSO COMING TO THE MAINROOM

- 10/20 **DEERHUNTER** w/ ALDOUS HARDING, JOCK GANG 18+  
10/21 **CLUTCH: PSYCHIC WARFARE WORLD TOUR 2016**  
w/ ZAKK SABBATH, KYNG 18+  
10/22 **GROUPOVE - THE BIG MESS TOUR** w/ MUNA, DILLY DALLY 18+  
10/23 **POST MALONE - THE HOLLYWOOD DREAMS TOUR**  
w/ JAZZ CARTIER, LARRY JUNE, HOSTED BY FKI 1ST ALL AGES  
10/25 **MAC MILLER - THE DIVINE FEMININE TOUR** 18+  
10/26 & 27 **ST. PAUL & THE BROKEN BONES** w/ DIANE COFFEE 18+  
10/28 **YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND**  
AND PERT NEAR SANDSTONE 18+  
10/29 **LUCERO** w/ CORY BRANAN 18+  
10/30 **AN EVENING WITH PETER HOOK & THE LIGHT,**  
PERFORMING "SUBSTANCE" - JOY DIVISION &  
NEW ORDER w/ DJ JAKE RUDH (OF TRANSMISSION) 18+  
11/01 **GOOD CHARLOTTE AND THE STORY SO FAR**  
w/ FOUR YEAR STRONG, BIG JESUS ALL AGES  
11/02 **THE NAKED AND FAMOUS** w/ XYLO, THE CHAIN GANG OF 1974 18+  
11/03 **WATSKY - X INFINITY TOUR** w/ WITT LOWRY, DAYE JACK,  
CHUKWUDI HODGE ALL AGES  
11/04 **MAJID JORDAN** ALL AGES  
11/05 **BLACKBERRY SMOKE, LIKE AN ARROW TOUR**  
w/ LUKE COMBS 18+  
11/06 **JAI WOLF** w/ JERRY FOLK 18+  
11/10 **REBELUTION** w/ HIRIE 18+  
11/12 **HORSESHOES & HAND GRENADES** w/ CABINET 18+  
11/18 **JAMES VINCENT MCMORROW** w/ ALLAN RAYMAN 18+  
11/19 **STRFKR** w/ GIGAMESH, PSYCHIC TWIN 18+  
12/01 **JJ GREY & MOFRO** w/ PARKER MILLSAP 18+  
12/08 **THE 37TH ANNUAL JOHN LENNON TRIBUTE**  
FT. CURTISS A WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM HIS FRIENDS 18+  
1/14 **HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANIS A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE &**  
**MUSIC OF JANIS JOPLIN - 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY** 18+

## 7TH ST ENTRY

- 8/31 **JOHN CHUCK & THE CLASS CD RELEASE PARTY**  
w/ DENNY, HI-FI CALI 18+  
9/01 **HEMMINGBIRDS** w/ WILD AGE, MIKE MAIMONE (MUTTS) 18+  
9/02 **TRIBULATION** w/ YOUTH CODE, HORRENDOUS 18+  
9/04 **BORA YORK, GOOD NIGHT GOLD DUST, THE PRAMS** 18+  
9/05 **MADEINTYO - THE PRIVATE CLUB TOUR**  
w/ SALMA SLIMS, MYNAMEPHIN, NOAH WOODS ALL AGES  
9/06 **DRIPPIN WIT FLAVA** FEATURING LYRIC MARID AND  
TAYLOR J w/ STI-LO REEL, DOT DUCATI, SCARLETT TAYLOR,  
ROSLYN MOORE, MIXIE D, DJLOW, MISS E OF KSG 18+

## TURF CLUB

- 8/31 **JETT FETISH, THE MODERN ERA, THERAPY, MOTEL SIXX** 21+  
9/01 **BUILDINGS** w/ MULTICULT, NOVACRON, ANIMAL LOVER 21+  
9/02 **BRAVER LP RELEASE SHOW** w/ TWO HOUSES (CHICAGO),  
INTREPID HEARTS, SWIMSUIT AREA, DRAPES 21+  
9/03 **TUNES 'N TOONS BRUNCH**  
CLASSIC CARTOONS + DJ'S SPINNING VINYL (NO COVER/ALL AGES)  
9/03 **REAL NUMBERS AND HEATERS** w/ FRANCE CAMP,  
THE CULT OF LIP 21+  
9/04 **JAZZ BRUNCH FT. JAMES BUCKLEY TRIO WITH NELSON**  
DEVEREAUX, JAMES BUCKLEY, AND JT BATES (NO COVER/ALL AGES)  
9/07 **NEIL MICHAEL HAGERTY & THE HOWLING HEX**  
w/ THE CHAMBERMAIDS, HOLLOW BOYS 21+

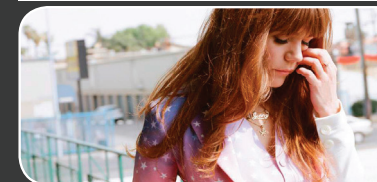
For show announcements, updates, set times, giveaways, and more:

@FIRSTAVENUE /FIRSTAVENUE @FIRSTAVENUE FIRST-AVENUE

## UPCOMING SHOWS AT OTHER VENUES



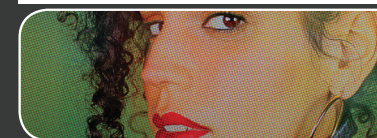
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**  
**SLEIGH BELLS**  
w/ TINY DEATHS  
at the FINE LINE  
\$20/\$35 RESERVED BALCONY  
8PM/18+



**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**  
JAM, FIRST AVENUE, CITY PAGES,  
AND 89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENT  
**JENNY LEWIS**  
'RABBIT FUR COAT' ANNIVERSARY TOUR  
w/ THE WATSON TWINS  
at STATE THEATRE  
\$35/6:30PM/ALL AGES



**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**  
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS  
**WHITNEY**  
w/ HOOPS  
at the TRIPLE ROCK  
\$15/7:30PM/18+



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**  
RADIO K PRESENTS  
**XENIA RUBINOS**  
w/ ASHLEY GROVES  
at the ICEHOUSE  
\$10/\$12/10:30PM/21+



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**  
FIRST AVENUE, ROSE, GO 95.3 AND THE  
HIDEAWAY PRESENT  
**PROF OUTDOORS 3 FT. PROF**  
w/ HOPSIN, GRIEVES, SA-ROC, J.  
PLAZA, DWYNE LL ROLAND, WHY  
KHALIQ, TIHIIIIIIIP AND MORE  
at the CABOOZE  
\$25/4PM/ALL AGES  
AFTER PARTY: \$10/\$15/10PM/18+



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**  
**HASAN MINHAJ:**  
HOMECOMING KING  
at the WOMAN'S CLUB  
\$25/8PM/ALL AGES



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**  
**BLIND PILOT**  
w/ RIVER WHYLESS  
at the FINE LINE  
\$18/\$20/8PM/18+



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**  
**BAND OF SKULLS**  
w/ MURDER SHOES  
at the FINE LINE  
\$20/7PM/18+

- 9/12 **TEGAN & SARA** at State Theatre  
9/15 **WEEN** at Roy Wilkins Auditorium  
9/16 **THE DEAR HUNTER: THE FINAL ACT TOUR**  
w/ EISLEY, GAVIN CASTLETON at Fine Line  
9/17 **FESTIVAL PALOMINO FT. TRAMPLED BY TURTLES, THE ARCS,**  
**ANDREW BIRD, JAKE BUGG, HOUNDMOUTH, FRIGHTENED**  
**RABBIT, ELEPHANT REVIVAL, AND MORE** at Hall's Island  
9/17 **GOLD PANDA** w/ OPEN MIKE EAGLE at Triple Rock  
9/18 **HIGHLY SUSPECT** at Fine Line  
9/24 **KT TUNSTALL** w/ MAYAENI at Fine Line  
9/25 **TOKYO POLICE CLUB** w/ THE ELWINS at Fine Line  
9/28 **CAR SEAT HEADREST** w/ LUCY DACUS at The Cedar  
10/03 **TOBACCO** w/ HIGH TIDES, ODONIS ODONIS at Triple Rock  
10/04 **PREOCCUPATIONS** w/ METHYL ETHEL at Fine Line  
10/07 **GLASS ANIMALS** w/ PUMAROSA at Myth Nightclub  
10/11 **NOTHING BUT THIEVES** w/ JULY TALK, THE WRECKS at Fine Line



# SEPT. 10th - FREE

9pm | The Venue, Downtown Minneapolis | 21+

**A L L**  

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**A C C**  

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**E S S**

VILLA ROSA | **ZULUZULUU**  
**DJ SHANNON BLOWTORCH**  
**SARAH WHITE | THE LIONESS**

All Access is a national movement to unite the vibrant majority of Americans who support abortion access and believe that each of us deserve the chance to be free to determine our own life path.



**Pro-Choice**Resources





# A LIST

**FRIDAY** Meta Con gets its geek on with cosplay, panels, gaming, and more **P. 29**

**SATURDAY** Drink beer while watching live pole vaulting on Brit's rooftop **P. 30**



HORACE IMHOTEP, BETANIGGA CONSORTIUM

**WEDNESDAY 8.31**

## THEATER

### BARS & MEASURES

JUNGLE THEATER

The National New Play Network (NNPN) exists to provide support through the collective resources of its nonprofit membership. Embodying the benefits of NNPN membership, the Jungle Theater is regional host to the rolling world premiere of *Bars & Measures*, the newest play from spoken-word artist and playwright Idris Goodwin. Set to a score from

noted jazz composer Justin Ellington, *Bars & Measures* centers upon two brothers whose lives and beliefs are a study in contrasts. Though both siblings are accomplished musicians, their playing styles are as opposite as their personalities. While one brother, a jailed Muslim, is committed to improvisational rhythms, the other is focused on the mastery of tightly structured formats. Headlined by Ansa Akyea and Darius Doth under the accomplished direction of Marion McClinton, *Bars & Measures* is a provocative piece that ponders how

deep differences can be respected, if not reconciled, on the common ground of humanity, composing something uniquely harmonious in the process. \$35-\$48. 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, Sundays; 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays. 2951 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-822-7063.

**Through October 9 —BRAD RICHASON**

## COMEDY

### TOMMY RYMAN

ACME COMEDY CO.

Tommy Ryman is anxious. "I'll wake up and have two things to do," he says. "I'll have an email to write, and then I've got to take out the trash. Then I'll remember another thing I have to do, like pay a bill, and then my brain shuts down and I think, 'I'm just going to lay in bed. That's too many things.'" To help him relax and relieve his anxiety, he recently bought a hedgehog. "I didn't know where you get them," he says. "My wife was like, 'I want a hedgehog.' Well, do you go to a pet store, do we walk around the backyard for a while? Apparently you go to a lady's house. That's where you get them." As they drove to pick up their new pet, Ryman wondered, "What's a lady that sells hedgehogs like? It's an interesting person that chooses to do that." We got there, and she had a room filled with cages of rats, guinea pigs, hedgehogs, and rabbits. It smelled amazing." A bit of an odd choice in pet, they are becoming more popular. "They're like a hamster with spikes," Ryman reports. "They're not blue like Sonic the Hedgehog. You can't find blue ones. That's what I wanted." 18+. \$15-\$18. 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393.

**Through Saturday —P.F. WILSON**

## FESTIVAL

### LLAMA COSTUME CONTEST

MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

Many of the animal barns and displays are set up to give visitors a general idea of how these creatures live when

they're not at the fair. The llama costume contest is, presumably, not one of those instances. Here you'll find beasts parading through the AgStar Arena dressed like brides, sparkly unicorns, and characters from Dr. Seuss. If this is how llamas roll in their downtime, more power to them. But we suspect this is one of those magical events that marries whimsy and spectacle with a little hard work (making those costumes and getting them onto a llama can't be easy!). Get there early this Wednesday evening; for obvious reasons, this event is very popular. Visit [www.mnstatefair.org](http://www.mnstatefair.org) for more info. Free with admission (\$11-\$13). 6 p.m. 1265 Snelling Ave., St. Paul; 651-288-4400. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

**THURSDAY 9.1**

## SPORTS

### THURSDAY NIGHT LIGHTS RACE SERIES

NATIONAL SPORTS CENTER

Fans of Nascar take note: Velodrome racing may be a good thrill fix between seasons. Not only do these cyclists compete at top speeds, but they do so without the protection of a car. Each Thursday, athletes convene at National Sports Center to ride. They zoom along on the oval track, which is steeply banked and requires precise turns. There are no breaks on these bikes, making the stakes even higher. Tonight's event is star-studded, as Olympic silver medalist Kelly Catlin headlines a special celebration with Daniel Casper and Tim Mulrooney, reigning world Masters Champions and world-record holders. Free. 7 p.m. 1700 105th Ave. NE, Blaine; 763-785-5600. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

## COMEDY

### BEN GLEIB

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Ben Gleib is in demand. When reached on his cellphone for his scheduled interview, he apologizes that he's

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 29 ►**



# HOPKINS' Newest Stand-Up Comedy Club

## ROYAL COMEDY THEATRE

*A Showcase of the Best Stand-Up Comedians  
in Minnesota Every Saturday!*

- SEPT. 3** No Show
- SEPT. 9 & 10** Miss Shannon, Boima Freeman, Courtney Baka, Phil Kolas, JD Provorse
- SEPT. 16 & 17** Jamie Blanchard, Lisa Ingber, Sidney Oxborough, Colleen Justice, Kjell Bjorgen
- SEPT. 23 & 24** Adam Quesnell, Elizabeth Ess, Jeff Pfoser, Matthew Burmeister, Raghav Mehta
- SEPT. 30 & OCT. 1** Joe Cocozzello, Turner Barrowman, Christy Mckay, Matt Fugate, Robert Fones



Doors 8:30pm, Show 9:00pm  
Lineup Subject to Change  
809 Mainstreet, Hopkins

[WWW.ROYALCOMEDYTHEATRE.COM](http://WWW.ROYALCOMEDYTHEATRE.COM)

# 2016 Minnesota Renaissance Festival

Weekends & Labor Day  
AUG. 20 – OCT. 2



Register to win a VIP Prize  
from Renaissance Festival!

**KING AND QUEEN  
FOR A DAY WITH YOU  
& YOUR 10 FRIENDS!**

12 Tickets | \$150 in food  
Meet and Greet with the King & Queen

Register to win online at  
[www.citypages.com/free/renfest](http://www.citypages.com/free/renfest)



BEER AND WINE TASTING FESTIVAL  
WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT  
WALKER, MN

**REGISTER TO WIN  
4 TICKETS TO  
HARVEST MOON  
FESTIVAL**

**ON  
SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 1ST**

*150+ Unique Beers,  
Wine and Spirits  
and Live  
Entertainment!*

REGISTER TO WIN AT:  
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Ben Gleib's busy  
schedule takes  
him to HOC



COURTESY OF THE STANDUP

#### CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY ►

about to run into a last-minute audition. He still takes time, though, to chat. His show, *Idiotest*, continues to be a hit on the Game Show Network, and he is also an occasional contributor to the *Today Show* on NBC as part of the "Guys Tell All Segment." He's not sure how he landed that gig. "I think they did an extensive search around the country for the sharpest male brains that can really represent mankind," he says. "That or they just asked me, I'm not sure." His special, *Ben Gleib: Neurotic Gangster*, debuted to rave reviews, and is now available on-demand. Additionally, Gleib recently made comedy history as the first comic to broadcast a headlining set via Facebook Live. "I did that in St. Louis," he says. "I did an all-improvised show for my late show Saturday, and 320,000 people watched it. It was pretty amazing." Another such set is planned for Chicago, and if that goes well one of his nights at the House of Comedy will receive the same treatment. 18+; 21+ later shows. \$15-\$22. 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday; 7 p.m. Sunday. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday** —P.F. WILSON

#### FOOD/PARTY

##### BACKYARD BBQ BASH: CHEF SHACK TURNS 10

CHEF SHACK RANCH MPLS

This Thursday, Chef Shack will celebrate 10 years with a shindig at the ranch. Out on the asphalt, the barbecue will be served by the plateful. Wash it down with some cold beer,

and keep the food party going with mini-doughnuts. Live music and games will entertain crowds between gorging, and non-perishable foodshelf items will be collected for Second Harvest Heartland. Free. 4 to 9 p.m. 3025 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-354-2575. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

#### FRIDAY 9.2

##### FESTIVAL

##### META CON 2016

HYATT REGENCY MINNEAPOLIS

Con season is year-round here in the Twin Cities. This month it's Meta Con's turn to entertain crowds and bring people together. This four-day convention is packed with things to do, see, and celebrate from all kinds of fandoms, whether you're a comic collector, a cosplay enthusiast, a tabletop player, or all three of those things. Commission some artwork, sing your heart out at karaoke, or slay the masses at a videogame tourney. Anime screenings, workshops, and panel talks will also abound. No one will starve or die of thirst at this party either, as free soda, ramen, and rice will be available for all revelers. For more info, visit [metaconvention.com](http://metaconvention.com). \$37-\$40; special packages available. 1300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612 370 1234. **Through Monday** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

##### ARTIST/GALLERY

##### HORACE IMHOTEP: A LETTER FROM THE SOUTH

CITY WIDE ARTISTS

Since opening in 2015, City Wide Artists, the downtown gallery by fashion aficionado Teqen Zéa-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30 ►

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WED // AUGUST 31

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SAT // SEPTEMBER 3

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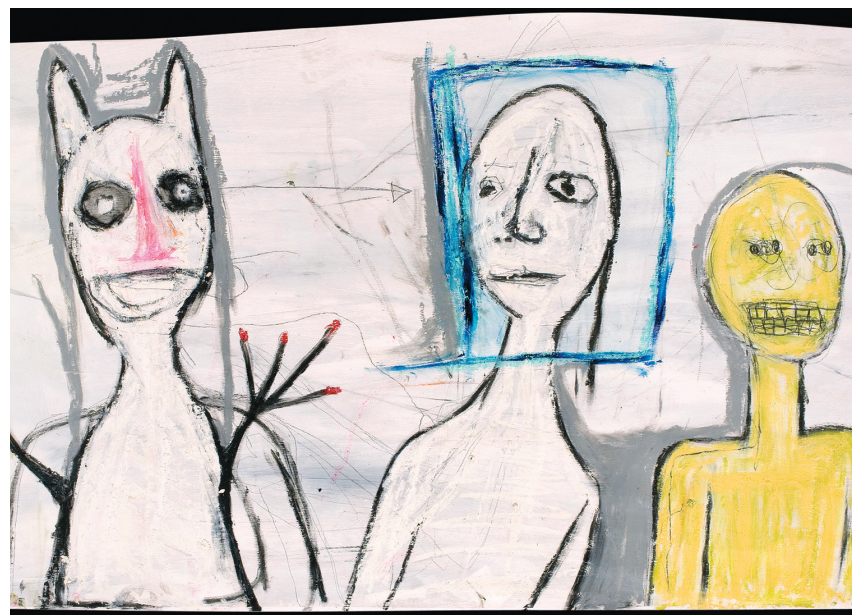
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## A-LIST



MELISSA STERN, FAMILY

"Talking Cure" jumps off Freud's couch

## CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ►

Aida, has not only gained a reputation for throwing great parties, but also for highlighting the work of Twin Cities artists of color. This week, the space presents its first out-of-state artist. Based in Atlanta, Horace Imhotep weaves together history and mythology with current racial struggles in "A Letter from the South," a show that employs satire, social justice, and a keen use of color. Through envisioning the aesthetic of a post-black arts movement, Imhotep's litany of difficult truths leads to pathways of future realities. There will be an opening reception Friday, September 2, from 7 p.m. to midnight. 1506 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis; 612-359-0828. **Through September 30** —SHEILA REGAN

## FILM

### SAINT INGRID: AN ARTIST OF SUFFERING

TRYLON MICROCINEMA

Swedish-born actress Ingrid Bergman's has stood the test of time with emotionally layered depictions of complex women in the midst of heart wrenching circumstances. The enduring results are nicely showcased by Trylon microcinema's four-film retrospective, Saint Ingrid: An Artist of Suffering, which begins with Bergman's most popular film. *Casablanca* (1942) hinges upon her romantically aching role as Isla Lund, ex-lover to Humphrey Bogart's cynical Rick Blaine, willing to sacrifice her own happiness for a greater cause.

Shifting to neorealism, *Stromboli* (1950) paired Bergman with the Italian avant-garde director (and her future husband) Roberto Rossellini for the story of an escaped prisoner of war whose marriage leads to the isolating confines of her new home on a volcanic island. *Autumn Sonata* (1978) was not only the actress' final film, but also the last feature from iconic director Ingmar Bergman, wherein an acclaimed pianist attempts to reconnect with her adult daughter. The series concludes with *Gaslight* (1944), a white-knuckle thriller that won Bergman her first of three Oscars as a woman caught in the nefarious mechanisms of a dastardly husband plotting to convince her she's going insane. \$8. Fridays through Sundays. Check [trylon.org/series/156](http://trylon.org/series/156) for showtimes. 3258 Minnehaha Ave S, Minneapolis. 612.424.5468. **Through September 25** —BRAD RICHASON

SATURDAY 9.3

## ART/MUSEUM

### THE TALKING CURE

WEISMAN ART MUSEUM

Freud's couch and his psychiatric methodology, known as the "talking cure," receive revisionist treatment at once timely and relevant in this exhibition, a multimedia project by New York-based sculptor Melissa Stern. After creating a series of figures out of various materials (wood, found objects, clay), she asked 12 poets, screenwriters, playwrights, and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33 ►





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**Sept 2**  
HOOKERS & BLOW  
60/70'S R&B &  
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**Lucky Tubb  
& The Modern Day  
Troubadours**  
**Sept 8**  
RAW. ORIGINAL.  
HONKY TONK. \$5

**Sept 9**  
ENERGETIC MIX  
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COUNTRY  
AND R&B \$7  
**Walter's WHEELHOUSE**  
FOLLOWING: @WALTERS\_WHEELHOUSE @WHEELHOUSE

**Ray Scott**  
**Sept 10**  
PURE COUNTRY  
OPENER: **ANASTASIA MITCHELL** \$20

**JOHNNY BOYD**  
**Sept 14 & 28**  
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COCKTAILIER, CLASSIC! \$10

**DALE WATSON**  
**Sept 15**  
HONKYTONK HERO & COUNTRY  
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**G'BEAU**  
**Sept 16**  
"SOULPOP" \$5

**Sept 17**  
CLASSIC ROCK/80'S ROCK  
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**ROUGH HOUSE**

**WITH OUR  
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**Sept 20**  
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**Sept 22**  
SULTRY, SOULFUL \$/S \$6

**Roadhouse 6**  
**Sept 23**  
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FEATURING: DEBBIE JACKSON, JANELLE KENDALL  
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ROCKABILLY, COUNTRY,  
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**TUESDAY - FRIDAY**  
**4:30 pm - 9:00 pm**



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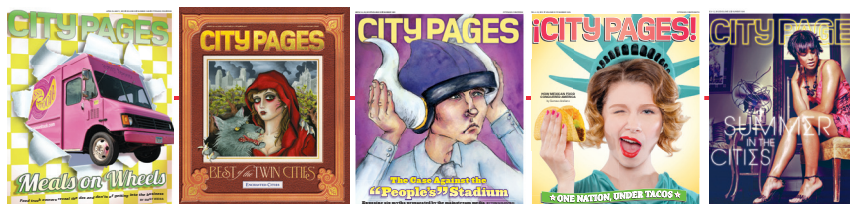
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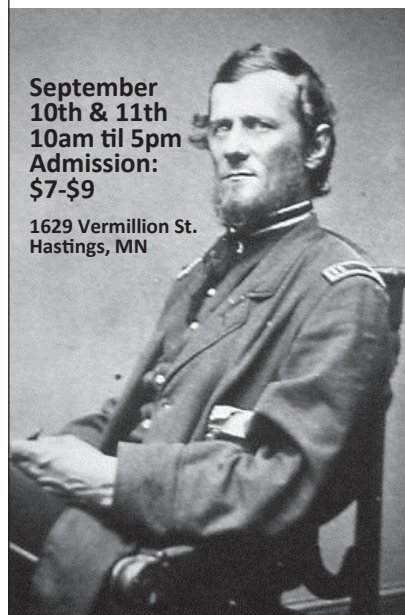
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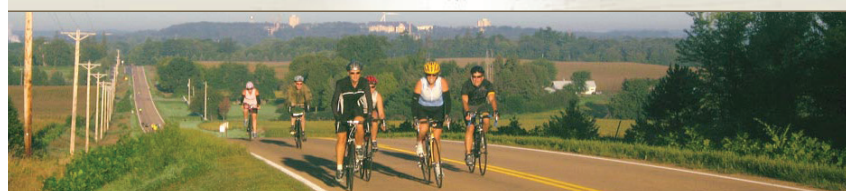
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Organized by the Northfield Rotary Club



## THEATER

## SOMALIA'S BALLOON

MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

Last year, Somali playwright and performer Ifrah Mansour took the Minnesota State Fair by storm with *How to Have Fun in a Civil War*, a piece about the resilience of children living through Somalia's Civil War. Mansour will present that play again later this fall at the Children's Theatre, but first up, she returns to the State Fair with another work, *Somalia's Balloon*. Using movement and a plethora of, yes, balloons, Mansour once again takes on the perspective of a child, this time retelling the colonial history of Somalia. Visit [www.mnstatefair.org](http://www.mnstatefair.org) for more info. Free with admission (\$11-\$13). Daily at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m. Education Building Courtyard and West End Market, 1265 Snelling Ave., St. Paul; 651-288-4400. Through Monday

—SHEILA REGAN



ANDY RICHTER

## CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY ►

novelists to transform a figure into a character with history and personality. In turn, they speak: 12 actors read their stories, which were recorded. That's not all. BluDot has provided a couch. And social artist Rebecca Krinke (creator of the haunting black beds featured in several gallery shows the past couple of years) has created a new participatory object, *What Needs to Be Said?*, that invites your contributions. 333 E. River Rd., Minneapolis; 612-625-9494.

Through April 30 —CAMILLE LEFEVRE

## SPORTS

## BRIT'S PUB VAULT

BRIT'S PUB

Pole vaulting from the top of a building may sound like the stuff of superheroes, but mere mortals will be soaring through the sky at Brit's this weekend. The grass is usually reserved for lawn bowling and movie screenings, but this Saturday it will host this unique event. For the past couple years, the Twin Cities Track Club has organized this intense competition on the roof of the downtown bar. Top athletes, some fresh from the Rio Olympics, including Leslie Brost, will be vaulting in heats

starting in the early morning through the evening. Guests will find some seating on the lawn, or spectators can watch from various tables on the veranda. While folks fly and flex their muscles, food and drink will be served to patrons. Free. 9:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. 1110 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-332-3908. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

## ART/FAMILY

FREE FIRST SATURDAY:  
STAGE & SCREEN (FOLK TAIL)

WALKER ART CENTER

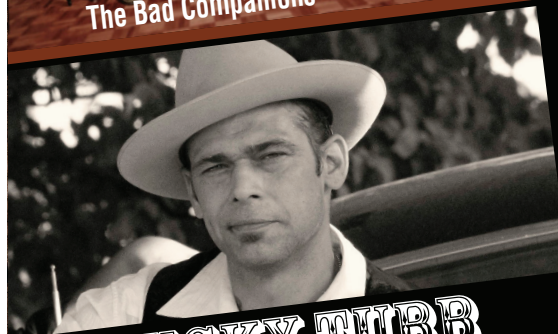
Families looking for a little fun this Labor Day weekend should be sure to stop by the Walker's Free First Saturday happening, which will be loaded with things to see and do. Explore the galleries, which includes "Paper City," a super-cool exhibition that takes origami and paper chains to a whole new level. An ongoing project, the installation also invites guests to contribute to the piece. At 11 a.m., Brian Laidlaw & the Family Trade will perform Americana-style power-ditties. *Belle and Sebastian*, a 2013 film about a French boy and his enormous shaggy dog traveling on a mission during World War II, screens at 1 p.m. Free. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 1750 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-375-7600. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

**SUNDAY FOOTBALL STARTS SEPT. 11 AT 11 AM**



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**ROGER CLYNE  
& THE PEACEMAKERS**

SEPT. 16 | CABOOZE

**BETH HART**

SEPT. 24 | FITZGERALD

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OCT. 17 | FITZGERALD

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# MISSED CONNECTIONS

*Complete Unknown* is as unknowable as its main character



Rachel Weisz as Jenny, Alice, Vanessa, and Sasha in *Complete Unknown*

COURTESY OF IFC FILMS

BY MICHAEL NORDINE

“**Y**ou think when you wake up in the mornin’ yesterday don’t count,” writes Cormac McCarthy in *No Country for Old Men*, “but yesterday is all that does count. What else is there? Your life is made out of the days it’s made out of.”

Rachel Weisz’s character in *Complete Unknown* would likely disagree. She’s spent the last 15 years moving from one identity to the next, leaving a trail of perplexed loved ones — some of whom think she’s dead — in her wake. She can’t hold on to her yesterdays.

We’re treated to an array of impressionistic moments from these past lives as the film opens. Some of them, we understand, may only exist in the stories she tells to the people who pass through her life: Rachel Weisz as a magician’s assistant in China. Rachel Weisz as a dreadlocked hippie moving into a new apartment. Rachel Weisz as a lost soul

taking a deep dive into the ocean — and, most likely to little effect, her own psyche.

We don’t at first know what these striking images are or why we’re seeing them, and Joshua Marston’s initial withholding of information can be as frustrating as it is intriguing.

Weisz is currently going by Alice; she was previously known as Jenny — and Vanessa, Sasha, and five other names. *Complete Unknown* takes as its subject nothing less than the construction of the self, here shown as an especially fluid, ongoing process.

All of us are every day working on becoming the person we’d like to be. Alice just takes a more extreme approach than most. “There’s a moment where you’re a blank slate,” she says, as though crying out to retroactively become a cast member on *Lost*. “It’s like a high and you’re deciding, What next?”

That’s a good question, and one Marston never entirely answers. *Complete Unknown*’s moment-to-moment oddity is

frequently gripping, but its cumulative effect is probably a lot like knowing Weisz’s character — the feeling quickly moves on, leaving you with little.

Michael Shannon co-stars as Tom, the first victim of Alice’s itinerant ways. (He knew her as Jenny, presumably her actual name.) The two have a chance encounter that isn’t exactly by chance, and what follows is a strange alchemy blending the free-associative imagery of *Upstream Color*, the strained dinner party of *The Invitation*, and even the walk-and-talk whimsy of *Before Sunrise*. Marston has a real feel for the ineffable emotions that draw people together and an equally keen sense of how fragile those forces can be.

In one scene, Alice and Tom meet a woman (Kathy Bates) who sprains her ankle while walking her dog. Helping her to her feet, Alice makes up a life story on the fly: pediatric cardiologist, “just in it for the money,” not romantically linked to Tom. He has no choice but to play

## COMPLETE UNKNOWN

Directed by Joshua Marston  
Opens Friday, Lagoon Cinema

along, and during the ensuing charade we sense him coming to understand why this unknowable woman lives the way she does.

Then he catches his reflection in the mirror, seemingly taken aback by the image glancing back at him. Does he like what he sees? Is this other, imagined life somehow more appealing than the one he’s actually leading? Whatever the answer, he doesn’t have the same freedom — or cowardice, or courage, or whatever other force you might ascribe to it — to start a new one. The more he comes to know Alice, the more he realizes he never truly will.

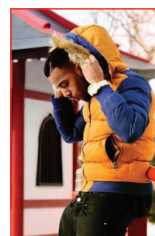
*Complete Unknown* ultimately has too accurate a title. We understand the impulse driving Alice’s actions, but she and the film itself remain as out of reach to us as she is to the people in her lives. **EF**



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**AUGUST 31**



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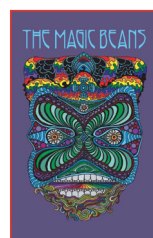
**SEPT. 1**



## MIDWEST LIVE & LOUD

PUNK ROCK FEST

**SEPT. 2-4**



## THE MAGIC BEANS

w/ special guest PHO

**SEPT. 7**



## PROF OUTDOORS 3

w/ HOPSIN, GRIEVES, + MORE

**SEPT. 10**



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## ROGER CLYNE & THE PEACEMAKERS

**SEPT. 16**



## WARRIOR KING

w/ THE ROOTS WARRIORS + DUB FOUNDATION

**SEPT. 18**



CABOOZE & LIVE NATION PRESENT

## BROTHERS OSBORNE

**OCT. 20**

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- 9/9..... **TIIIIIP & GREENROOM PRESENT Wifisfuneral** w/ XXXTEMNTATION, POLLARI, & MORE!
- 9/10..... **Prof - AFTER PARTY!** Hosted by Prof, feat. DJ FUNDO, ST. PAUL SLIM & MORE!
- 9/15..... **LEOPRESENTS.COM Ice Nine Kills** w/ SECRETS, SYLAR, & MORE!
- 9/17..... **Robert Randolph & The Family Band** w/ FROGLEG
- 9/23..... **LEOPRESENTS.COM Montana of 300**
- 9/28..... **Twiztid** w/ MAC LETHAL, ZODIAC MPRINT, LEX THE HEX MASTER & MORE!
- 9/30..... **LEOPRESENTS.COM Reflections Farewell**
- 10/5..... **LEOPRESENTS.COM Suicide Silence** w/ WHITECHAPEL, CARNIFEX, & OCEANO
- 10/6..... **LEOPRESENTS.COM Art of Dying** feat. CHILDREN 18:3, & LETTERS FROM THE FIRE
- 10/25..... **LEOPRESENTS.COM & CABOOZE PRESENT Insane Clown Posse: The Riddle Box Tour**
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THEATER

# A NOTEWORTHY PRODUCTION

Two brothers strike different chords



JOSH TOBIESSEN

BY JAY GABLER

Music is integral to *Bars and Measures*: It forms a bridge between two brothers on opposite sides of a prison wall. In playwright Idris Goodwin's clear-eyed view, though, music isn't some magical power. It's something these two brothers do very well, but sometimes, these characters argue, music just isn't enough.

Goodwin's poignant and absorbing play, now at the Jungle Theater under the direction of Marion McClinton as part of a "rolling world premiere" among four American companies, was inspired by the true story of Antoine Dowdell and Tarik Shah, two musician brothers, the latter of whom was convicted of conspiring to aid al-Qaida. In *Bars and Measures*, as in life, the conspiracy charges rely on an elaborate government sting that supporters of the imprisoned man say amounts to entrapment.

Onstage, the brothers are Eric (Darius Dotch) and Bilal (Ansa Akyea), and we first meet them in a prison visiting room, "jamming" by way of scatting back and forth with their voices alone as jazz-bassist Bilal tries to teach his classical-pianist sibling how to swing. When visiting time is over, that room at stage left becomes Bilal's solitary-confinement cell while Eric returns to his elegant apartment at stage right, greeting a musical collaborator (Taous Claire Khazem) who might also become a lover.

In a tight 80 minutes with no intermis-

## BARS AND MEASURES

Jungle Theater  
2951 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis  
Through October 9; 612-822-7063

sion, *Bars and Measures* hurtles toward Bilal's trial as we gradually learn more about the brothers' shared history. Khazem and actor Maxwell Collyard fill in a range of utility roles (lawyers, a prison guard, a television reporter), but the focus is on Eric and Bilal — particularly Eric, who wrestles with conflicted feelings about his brother as we see Bilal standing in the shadows across the stage, held in solitary confinement. Dotch convincingly strains to maintain his composure as more and more is asked of his character.

The production is suffused with music while avoiding the temptation to, so to speak, overplay. Fundamentally, this is a play about two characters, not two genres.

Goodwin's dialogue pushes actors and audience to follow impassioned flights of argument and emotion. Bilal, in particular, strains to explain his perspective as understandable anger tips into potentially criminal conspiracy. At times, Akyea seems almost overwhelmed by the avalanche of language. But this is, after all, a character being pushed to his limits.

Like a good jazz solo, *Bars and Measures* combines force and restraint, logic and emotion. It's likely to get stuck in your head for a long while. **C+**

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# GREAT MN COUNT-TOGETHER

The modern Minnesota State Fair grandstand era, by the numbers

BY JAY BOLLER

**228** : Miles from St. Paul to Bemidji. That's where actor/singer

Jane Russell was born before going on to become a Hollywood sex symbol in the '40s and '50s. Her surprise 1954 hit, the churchy girl-group number "Do Lord," entered the Billboard top 30, and Russell would eventually co-headline the fair's first major grandstand lineup in 1962 alongside Jimmie Dean and Dennis Day.

**18:** Number of times Alabama has performed. This year the country-rock vets will make it a cool 19 when they play Thursday; the freshly retired Garrison Keillor will perform for his 12th time Friday. Other double-digit fair stars include Willie Nelson (11) and the Oak Ridge Boys (10).

**13:** Comedians have headlined the grandstand stage, including Redd Foxx, Bob Newhart, Red Skelton, Steve Martin, Bob Hope, Bill Cosby, Jerry Seinfeld, Rodney Dangerfield, Jeff Foxworthy + Bill Engvall, Dana Carvey + Dennis Miller + Kevin Nealon. Bring back standup comedy! How cool would it be to see contemporary stars like Louis C.K., Chris Rock, or Aziz Ansari at the fair? Side note: Fuck Bill Cosby.

**26,000:** Number of attendees *The Johnny Cash Show* drew over two nights in 1969. That huge turnout would help usher in the modern grandstand era, featuring larger lineups and brighter star power. The Man in Black's popular variety show returned to the fair four times from 1970 to 1980; he arrived solo in 1991 with pal Willie Nelson.

**131:** Years ago the original wooden grandstand was constructed in 1885. The current grandstand was built in 1909, with major improvements made in the late '30s and again in 2002.

**0:** Times Prince has performed. Safe to say the 4-H crowd wasn't really his style. The Purple One was honored, however, with last Friday's "Unite in Purple" tribute day.



A certifiably turnt grandstand crowd from the early '60s

**2:** Times Bob Dylan has performed. Minnesota's other favorite son performed in 1990 and 1993. The former stop was in support of his disappointing/guest-heavy 1990 album *Under the Red Sky*; the latter featured guitar god opener Santana.

**17,000:** Capacity of the grandstand, placing it just behind Twin Cities arenas Xcel Energy Center (18,568) and Target Center (19,356).

**1974:** Year of the first rock band — Styx. The fair largely ignored the explosion of rock 'n' roll in the '60s, instead opting for country stars and cornball pop acts, and that continued into the '70s. In fact, in 1972 — a year that saw T. Rex, Deep Purple, and the Rolling Stones find chart success — the fair dished out a cheese-a-thon that included Sonny and Cher, John Denver, Bobby Goldsboro, Neil Diamond, and Up with People. Styx, no strangers to cheese themselves, would rock the grandstand six more times through the years.

**5,500:** Number of LED lights comprising the grandstand marquee. You've always wondered, now you know!

**1:** Internet Cat Video Festival. The wacky sensation lured 10,000 cat lovers and even a reporter from the New York Times to the Walker Art Center's lawn in 2012. The free fest went big-time as a ticketed grandstand event the following year, but that format would not endure. The Walker cut ties after 2014; the St. Paul Saints adopted the fest and staged it at CHS Field earlier this month.

**\$6:** Cost to see the Beach Boys in 1988. The Rock and Roll Hall of Famers surfed into the fair nine times from 1982 to 1994. This year, ticket prices ranged from \$21 for the classic rock nostalgia fest Happy Together to \$67 for the Dixie Chicks.

**19:** Years between the first hip-hop act — the Fat Boys opening for Nu Shooz in 1982 — and the second — Vanilla Ice in

1991. It would take another 11 years for the fair to realize this newfangled rap thing is gonna stick. It's been playing catch up in recent years, with Wiz Khalifa, Mac Miller, and Big K.R.I.T. (2012), and Macklemore and Ryan Lewis, Talib Kweli, Chance the Rapper, P.O.S, and the Chalice (2013). Pop-rapper G-Eazy hit the grandstand Tuesday.

**22,117:** Tickets sold to see Christina Aguilera in 2000, the all-time record. Wrote the Star Tribune at the time: "Christina Aguilera was what little girls wanted, and what the Minnesota State Fair needed. The teen pop princess set a record gross of \$329,540 Monday as she became the first star to sell out the grandstand since Garth Brooks in 1992."

**43:** Years between Merle Haggard's first appearance in 1972 and his second appearance in 2015. It proved to be the last opportunity for Minnesotans to see the outlaw country legend, as the Hag died this past April at 79. [G](#)



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## MUSIC CRITICS' PICKS

### THE REVOLUTION

FIRST AVENUE, FRIDAY 9.2  
& SATURDAY 9.3

Days after Prince's death, his golden-era backing band released a foreshadowing statement: "We have so much to share with the world and we have so much love to give back to our Purple Family. The Revolution is in mourning but we stand united in love. You will see us together again." From 1979 to 1986, Wendy Melvoin, Brown Mark, Bobby Z., Lisa Coleman, and Matt Fink played as the Revolution, the backing band that supported Prince on his groundbreaking 1984 album, *Purple Rain*. In April, after spending a week together mourning their bandleader's sudden death at 57, the five funk-rockers decided to reunite for two instantly sold-out shows at First Avenue. The Revolution, which also consisted of 10 other musicians other than this classic, original lineup, backed Prince on *Purple Rain*, 1985's *Around the World in a Day*, and 1986's *Parade*. They supported the Purple One during countless live shows throughout the '80s. The Grammy Award winners had previously reunited in 2014, though Prince was not a part of the show. Melvoin and Coleman most recently were seen performing alongside Prince at the 2006 Brit Awards. 18+. Sold out. 8 p.m. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388.

—JERARD FAGERBERG

### SLEIGH BELLS

FINE LINE MUSIC CAFE, SATURDAY 9.3

*Treats*, the neck-snapping debut album by Brooklyn-based duo Sleigh Bells, powered the band to indie fame at a rapid pace back in 2010. That seemed like an inevitable result given the sheer force and physicality of the music; it was hard not to have some kind of reaction to highlights like "Rill Rill," "Crown on the Ground," and "Infinity Guitars." Right away, singer Alexis Krauss and songwriter/producer Derek Miller had a strikingly original sound, a noisy combo of Krauss' pop melodies, Miller's blazing guitar riffs, and clattering hip-hop-influenced drum rhythms. Both 2012's *Reign of Terror* and 2013's *Bitter Rivals* introduced effective modifications to *Treats*' basic sound: The former had a more distinct '80s metal influence, while the latter found a more confident Krauss coming into her own as a singer and writer of her own melodies. After that prolific three-year run, Krauss and Miller are finally set to drop their fourth full-length, *Jessica Rabbit*, on November 11. Tiny Deaths open. 18+. \$20-\$35. 9 p.m. 318 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8100.

—MICHAEL MADDEN

### MS. LAURYN HILL

FIRST AVENUE, SUNDAY 9.4

"Me without a mic is like a beat without



## AMSTERDAM

BAR & HALL

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

**The Moth**

6:30pm • Hall Stage • \$10 • 21+

**Steel Cranes** (Oakland),  
**Brilliant Beast, Drumbeat Red**  
10pm • Bar Stage • 21+

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

**Guitar Wolf**

5pm • Hall Stage • \$15 • 16+

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

**Soul Low** (Milwaukee),  
**Dan Mariska & The Boys Choir,**  
**Nethan**

9pm • Bar Stage • 21+

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

**Trivia Mafia's Brunch Trivia**

12pm • Bar Stage

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

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6pm • Hall Stage • \$10 • 21+

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

**Books & Bars**

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**reilly partridge, jimmy barnett**

fri : september 2

7pm : **laura and sean's movie**

**and music trivia**

10pm : **elizabeth ghandour &**  
**the heighburners** (ed release),  
**brian just,tree party**

sat : september 3

7pm : trivia mafia presents:

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10pm : **solidstate, liquor beats winter,**  
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sun : september 4

8pm : **trivia mafia**

mon : september 5

8pm : **the roe family singers**

10pm : **doug otto and friends**

tue : september 6

7-9pm : **331 blingo**

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**UPCOMING EVENTS:**  
 Fri, September 9 ..... GB LEIGHTON  
 Sat, September 10 ..... THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE FUNKY

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**Friday, September 2 at 9pm**  
**The Swamp Kings**

**Saturday, September 3 at 9pm**  
**The Dee Miller Band**

**Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30pm**  
**Curtiss A & The Dark Click**

**Friday, September 9 at 9pm**  
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**Saturday, September 10 at 9pm**  
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## MUSIC CRITICS' PICKS

a snare," Ms. Lauryn Hill rapped during her first verse on her breakthrough album with the Fugees, 1996's *The Score*. Twenty years later, that statement has come to mean new things: She's touring and recording less often, but with more purpose when she does. Her most recent studio album remains 1998's *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill*, one of the best and most enduring hip-hop albums of the '90s, what with its organic combination of technically stunning rapping, lush R&B production, and overall soulfulness. With the closest thing to a proper follow-up being her divisive *MTV Unplugged* album from 2002, Hill has preferred to perform live and release new songs at her own pace. Following her completion of a 2013 prison sentence for tax evasion, she's been especially visible. Right after the 2014 killing of Michael Brown, she released the affecting Rodgers & Hammerstein flip "Black Rage (sketch)," and last year she contributed six tracks to the tribute album *Nina Revisited... A Tribute to Nina Simone*. Hill's current MLH Caravan: A Diaspora Calling! Concert Series will bring several guest musicians to the First Ave stage. 18+. \$77.7 p.m. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388. —MICHAEL MADDEN

## JENNY LEWIS WITH THE WATSON TWINS

STATE THEATRE, TUESDAY 9.6

Former child actress Jenny Lewis cut her musical teeth as lead singer of the respected indie-rock band Rilo Kiley. But she made an even bigger splash with her 2006 debut solo album, *Rabbit Fur Coat*, a popular and critical hit that inspired comparisons to Emmylou Harris. With lyrics designed for deep contemplation, *RFC* took an Americana tilt that mixed pop with country, bluegrass, and gospel, thanks in no small part to Kentucky-bred twins Chandra and Leigh Watson. The three-part harmonies of Lewis and the Watsons kick off the album in the a cappella track "Run Devil Run." Another highlight is a cover of the Traveling Wilburys' "Handle With Care," featuring Conor Oberst, Ben Gibbard, M. Ward, and James Valentine. To mark *Rabbit Fur*'s 10th anniversary and new re-issue, Lewis and the Watsons have reunited to perform the album in its entirety. Second sets have featured tunes from RK and Lewis' other two solo albums. Incidentally, Lewis' other current project is the new-wavy trio Nice As Fuck, with Au Revoir Simone's Erika Forster and the Like's Tennessee Thomas. \$35.7:30 p.m. 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-339-7007. —RICK MASON

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 (KYLE KOLIHA ON THE PATIO • SAT, 3-6PM)

**Sunday, September 4 • 5pm-1am**  
**Kurt Jorgensen Marathon**

**Monday, September 5**  
**Labor Day! Open at 11am!**

**UPCOMING**  
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## SAVAGE LOVE

# Client Tell

How can johns make prostitution safer?  
By speaking up.



**Dan Savage**

**I** have been seeing sex workers for 30 years, and I shudder to think how shitty my life would have been without them. Some have become friends, but I've appreciated all of them. Negative stereotypes about guys like me are not fair, but sex work does have its problems. Some clients (including females) are difficult — not typically violent; more often they're inconsiderate and demanding. Clients need to understand that all people have limits and feelings, and money doesn't change that. But what can we clients do to fight stupid, regressive, repressive laws that harm sex workers?

NOT A JOHN

**You can** speak up, NAJ.

The current line from prohibitionists — people who want sex work to remain illegal — is that all women who sell sex are victims, and all men who buy sex are monsters. But talk to actual sex workers and you hear about considerate, regular clients who are kind, respectful, and sometimes personally helpful in unexpected ways. (A sex worker friend had a regular client who was a dentist; he did some expensive dental work for my uninsured friend — and he did it for free, not for trade.) You also hear about clients who are threatening or violent — and how laws against sex work make it impossible for them to go to the police, making them more vulnerable to violence, exploitation, and abuse, not less.

There is a large and growing sex workers' rights movement, NAJ, which Emily Bazelon wrote about in a terrific cover story for the New York Times Magazine ("Should Prostitution Be a Crime?" May 5, 2016). Bazelon spoke with scores of sex workers active in the growing and increasingly effective decriminalization movement. Amnesty International recently called for the full decriminalization of sex work, joining Human Rights Watch, the World Health Organization, and other large, mainstream health and human rights groups.

But there's something missing from this movement: clients like you, NAJ.

Maggie McNeill, a sex worker, activist, and writer, wrote a blistering piece on her blog ("The Honest Courtesan") about a recent undercover police operation in

Seattle. Scores of men seeking to hire sex workers — the men ranged from surgeons to bus drivers to journalists — were arrested and subjected to ritualized public humiliation designed to discourage other men from paying for sex.

"These crusades do nothing but hurt the most vulnerable individuals on both sides of the transaction," McNeill wrote. "The only way to stop this [is for] all of you clients out there [to] get off of your duffs and fight. Regular clients outnumber full-time whores by at least 60 to 1; gentlemen, I suggest you rethink your current silence, unless you want to be the next one with your name and picture splashed across newspapers, TV screens, and websites."

The legal risks and social stigma attached to buying sex doubtless leave some clients feeling like they can't speak up, and the much-touted "Nordic Model" is upping the legal stakes for buyers of sex. (The Nordic Model makes buying sex illegal, not selling it. In theory, only clients are supposed to suffer, but in practice, the women are punished, too.) But sex workers today, like gays and lesbians not too long ago, are coming out in ever-greater numbers to fight for their rights in the face of potentially dire legal and social consequences. They're speaking up on Twitter and other social-media platforms. It's time for their clients to join them in the fight.

And here's something you can do without going public: The Sex Workers Outreach Project (SWOP) is running a pilot program to help incarcerated sex workers. Send a book to an imprisoned sex worker, become a pen pal, or make a donation by going to SWOPbehindbars.org and clicking on "10 Ways to Help Incarcerated Sex Workers."

P.S. A big thank you to the Dan Savages who filled in for me while I was away — Dan Savage, Orlando-based sportswriter; Dan Savage, London-based theatrical marketing executive; and Dan Savage, Brooklyn-based designer. You guys did a great job!

[mail@savagelove.net](mailto:mail@savagelove.net)

Follow Dan on Twitter: @fakedansavage  
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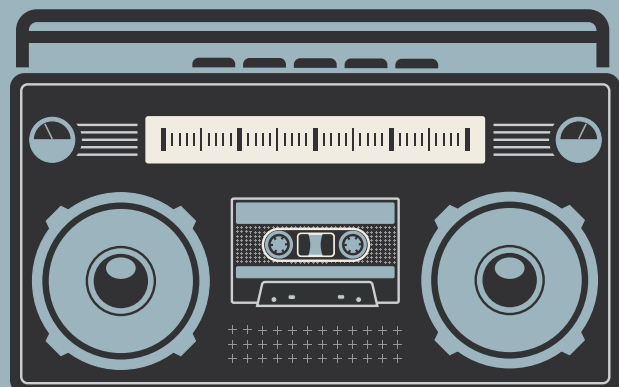
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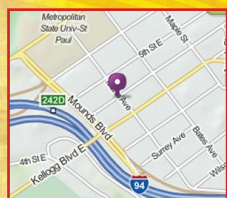


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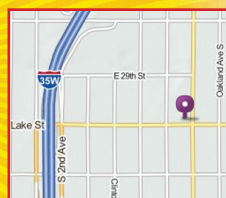
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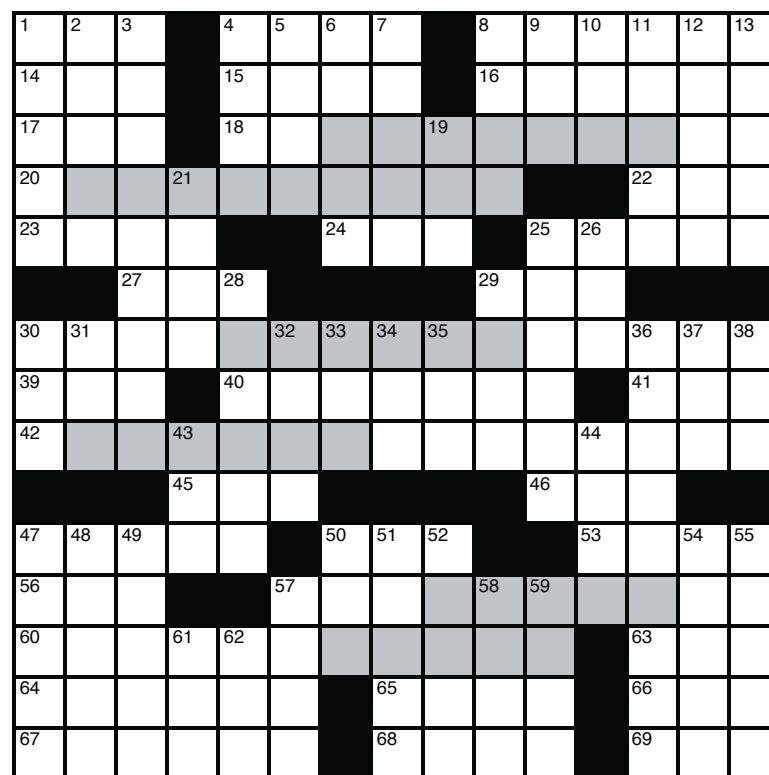
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BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

#### Across

1. 2016 Republican candidate Donald labeled as "low energy"
4. Took care of, as a bill
8. Completely wrecks
14. Hospital ward, for short
15. Strong desire
16. Ark's landing spot
17. No sharer
18. Sly's emo boxer?
20. Letters from a Muslim's deity?
22. Creature that conducts electricity
23. Regard as
24. Furniture wood
25. Military group
27. Gearwheel's projection
29. Moviefone's parent co.
30. Rouse Martin known for nailing tenets to a church door?
39. Step between fa and la
40. Provides a room for
41. Before, in poetry
42. "I need help getting this into English"?
45. Consumed
46. No later than
47. Plane part
50. Exotic pet choice
53. 28-Down article
56. Ace's stat
57. Most uncomfortable place to sleep for overnight guests?
60. Wreck Italy's capital?
63. Since 1/1: Abbr.

64. Acquire
65. Stops outside of the city
66. General known for chicken dishes
67. Sneaker company with a red triangle logo
68. Barclays Center squad
69. Wedding promise

#### Down

1. Religious war
2. French school
3. Taps, e.g.
4. Bet where nobody wins
5. Go for \_\_\_\_ (jog)
6. White house?
7. American rival
8. Catches some rays
9. "\_\_\_\_ was crazy and could be grounded" ("Catch-22")
10. Eastern belief
11. Traveled like a grenade
12. Magic, famously
13. Panache
19. Pest-seeing cry
21. Crazy way to run
25. One doing the podcast with you
26. Saison, e.g.
28. See 53-Across
29. Memo-routing abbr.
30. Burning residue
31. Feeling of despair
32. Requirement
33. Small carpenter
34. Words With Friends tile: Abbr.
35. Nat. that won

- the most medals in the 2016 Olympics
36. Supposedly unscripted programming
37. Class where you can work on your figures
38. Born overseas
43. Golden ratio symbol
44. In \_\_\_\_ of
47. Furniture wood
48. Climber's ridge
49. Prep, as a turducken
50. "Dayum"
51. Politician Hatch
52. Unified
54. "Au contraire!"
55. Fund, as a chair
57. Policy expert
58. "Heroes in a half shell," briefly
59. Tell all, with "up"
61. Margin setting
62. 2016 Olympics city

#### Last Week's Answer







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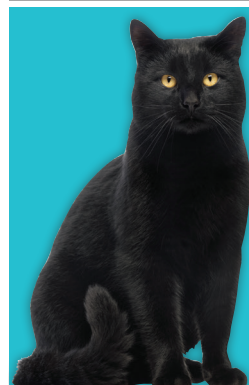
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